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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being filed by
fax transmission to 703.872.9306,
Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313 on July 27, 2004

For: Gates Corporation

Signature Robert Ross Smith Date signed July 27, 2004IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

OFFICIAL

In re Application of:

Crabtree, Michael L.

Serial No. 10/627,034

Filed: 7/24/2003

For: Airspring Sleeve

Examiner: Pezzlo, B.
Group Art Unit: 3683AMENDMENT and
REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Via Fax: 703.872.9306
Commissioner for Patents
Group Art Unit 3683
Alexandria, VA 22313

Dear Examiner Pezzlo:

This amendment is responsive to the non-final office action mailed 3/26/04. Applicant hereby
requests an extension of time in which to respond under 37 CFR § 1.136.

Please enter the following amendments in the subject case.

AmendmentI. In the Specification.

1. None.

II. In the Drawings.

1. None.

2. Claims 2-6 and 8-10 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hirtreiter et al. (US patent 3897941).

Claims 2 and 3 depend directly or ultimately depend from claim 1.

As to claim 4, please refer to the foregoing argument.

Claims 5 and 6 depend directly or ultimately from claim 4.

Claim 8-10 depend directly or ultimately from claim 7.

3. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hirtreiter et al. (US patent 3897941) in view of Crabtree (US 4763883).

Claim 11 depends from claim 7.

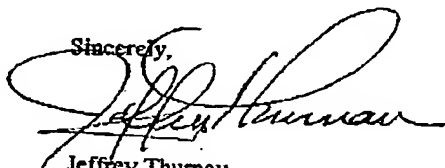
Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection as to all claims.

V. Fees.

Any fees payable for this amendment including the request for extension of time can be deducted from deposit account 07-0475 in the name of The Gates Corporation.

Thank you for your attention to this case. If any questions arise, please call at the number below.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey Thurnau
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 42,183
303-744-4743

Date: July 27, 2004